Sale of Iodised Salt under Fair Price Shops

3186. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have directed the States for sale of iodised salt through the Fair Price Shops;

(b) whether the sale of non-iodised salt has been banned by the State Governments State-wise;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Twenty-seven States/UTs have issued notifications banning the sale of non-iodized salt in their entire jurisdiction and two States have banned the sale of non-iodized salt partly, i.e. in certain areas in the State. The details are given in the Statement attached.

Out of the three remaining States and UTs where there is no ban, the Government of Goa is contemplating issue of ban with effect from 15th August, 1997 and Government of Pondicherry w.e.f. Ist September, 1997. Government of Kerala has not taken any decision so far in this regard.

(e) Government of India is impressing upon the Government of Kerala to issue the notification banning sale of non-iodized salt.

Statement

I. States/UTs where there is Total Ban

1. Assam
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Bihar
4. Delhi
5. Gujarat
6. Haryana
7. Himachal Pradesh
8. Jammu & Kashmir
9. Karnataka
10. Madhya Pradesh
11. Manipur
12. Meghalaya
13. Mizoram
14. Nagaland
15. Orissa
16. Punjab
17. Rajasthan
18. Sikkim
19. Tamil Nadu
20. Tripura
21. Uttar Pradesh
22. West Bengal

Union Territories

23. Chandigarh
24. Dadra & Nagar Haveli
25. Lakshadweep
26. Daman & Diu
27. Andaman & Nicobar

II. States where there is partial Ban

1. Maharashtra (17 Districts)
2. Andhra Pradesh (7 Districts)

III. States where there is no Ban

1. Goa—Ban is proposed to be issued from 15th August, 1997.
2. Pondicherry—Ban is proposed to be issued from 1st Sept., 1997.
3. Kerala.

Violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980

3187. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are violating Forest Conservation Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has transferred possession of about 3.04 lakh hectare banni grassland recently; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to prevent such transfer?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Reports have been received from various fora including regional offices of the Ministry regarding violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in different States from time to time. These violations mostly pertain to use of forest land for non-

forest purpose without prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and non-fulfilment of stipulations laid down in the approval orders of the Ministry.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Consumer Courts

3188. SHRI RAMKRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumer courts have been set up in all the States particularly in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. At present 31 State Commissions and 518 District Fora are functioning in the States and UTs. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed. The responsibility for setting up of District Fora rests with the State Governments.

Statement

Consumer Courts

State/UT	State Commission	Number of District Fora
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1	23
Arunachal Pradesh	1	13
Assam	1	23
Bihar	1	55
Goa	1	2
Gujarat	1	20
Haryana	1	16
Himachal Pradesh	1	12
Jammu & Kashmir	1	2
Karnataka	1	20
Kerala	1	14
Madhya Pradesh	1	45
Maharashtra	1	34
Manipur	1	8
Meghalaya	1	7
Mizoram	1	3
Nagaland	1	7
Orissa	1	31
Punjab	1	17
Rajasthan	1	32
Sikkim	1	4
Tamil Nadu	1	24
Tripura	1	3
Uttar Pradesh	1	72
West Bengal	1	19
Andaman & Nicobar	1	2
Chandigarh	1	1
D & N Haveli	1	1
Daman & Diu	1	2
Delhi	1	4
Lakshadweep	1	1
Pondicherry	1	1
Total	32	518